

The ABCs of AP[®] and Dual-Credit

What do I need to know
about my AP/Dual-credit
classes?



What is AP[®]?

- AP[®] stands for **A**dvanced **P**lacement and are courses that are offered by The College Board with the possibility of earning college credit. AP[®] teachers must be approved to teach the class and must submit a syllabus that is reviewed and approved by AP[®].



AP[®] Courses offered at G-CHS

- AP[®] Biology
- AP[®] Calculus AB & BC
- AP[®] Chemistry
- AP[®] English Language & Composition
- AP[®] European History
- AP[®] Music Theory
- AP[®] Physics 1
- AP[®] Physics 2
- AP[®] Psychology*
- AP[®] Statistics
- AP[®] Studio Art (2D & 3D)*
- AP[®] US History



****Senior year classes***

What is ACP ?

- ACP stands for **A**dvance **C**ollege **P**roject and is a dual-credit program offered through Indiana University. Teachers must apply to teach and must be approved by the corresponding department chair at IU. They must also follow the IU syllabus for the course.



ACP Courses offered at G-CHS

- BIOL-L 100 – Biology*
- CHEM-C 105/C125 – Chemistry
- H105 US History (1st semester)
- H106 US History (2nd semester)
- W131 Reading, Writing, & Inquiry I
- L202 Literary Interpretation

****year-long class***



Other Dual-credit courses offered at G-CHS

Ball State University

Speech

Ivy Tech

Digital Design I & II

Drawing I & II

Education Professions I

Intro to Culinary Arts & Hospitality

Culinary Arts & Hospitality Mngt.

Advanced Manufacturing I & II

Spanish IV



How are these programs similar?

- Both AP[®] and dual-credit courses allow students the opportunity to earn dual-credit (both high school and college credit).
- Both courses present their material in a college format with college-level expectations for course rigor.



How are these programs different?

- Earning college credit
 - Students in AP[®] courses earn college credit by scoring an acceptable score on the AP[®] exam given in May. Most colleges will award credit if the student earns a 4 or 5 while others will allow credit for a 3.
 - Dual-credit students earn college credit with the grade they earn in the high school course. The credit is transcribed and transferable to other colleges and universities.



How are these programs different?

- Cost

- This year, AP[®] exams will cost \$93 per exam. Luckily, the State of Indiana pays for all math and science exams, as well as the AP[®] English Language exam this year.
- ACP courses are billed through Indiana University at a rate of \$25/credit hour or \$75 for a 3-hour course.



How are these programs different?

- Transferability
 - Most colleges and universities throughout the U.S. recognize AP[®] courses and provide some type of credit for passed exams.
 - ACP course credit is awarded through Indiana University. All Indiana public universities will accept course credit if the course is on the CTL. Some private schools may not accept the credit.



AP Exam Information

- Our goal at G-CHS is that students should prepare to earn a 5 on each AP[®] exam taken.
- We will register students for these tests in late February.
- Tests are given during the first two weeks of May.
- Scores are available on-line to students in July.



AP[®] Exam Preparation

- Students should prepare for the exam immediately– this is a college-level course and it “looks” different from any other class a student has taken.
- Students who perform the best on the exams look for outside resources, form study groups, and attack the class and its work from Day 1.



Dual-credit Registration

- Students who take dual-credit classes are students at that college and must register for the class as those students would do.
- Dual-credit students typically receive an e-mail from the college regarding the class(es) so they should check their e-mail regularly.
- Students in IU ACP classes must have a 2.7 or higher GPA at G-CHS in order to earn IU credit.



Dual-credit classes and the College Transcript

- The college credit for dual-credit classes is transcribed by that college or university, not G-CHS. Students who want to submit their classes for credit at another college or university must contact the Registrar's Office of that school and request that it be sent.



Dual-credit and FERPA

- FERPA is the **F**amilies **E**ducational **R**ights and **P**rivacy **A**ct and guarantees that “Once a student reaches 18 years of age **or attends a postsecondary institution**, he or she becomes an “eligible student,” and all rights formerly given to parents under FERPA transfer to the student.”



What does FERPA mean to me if my student is in a dual-credit course?

- Technically, it means that the college will ask that the student initiate and maintain contact with the department or the Registrar's Office regarding registration and grades.
- The bill, however, will be sent to the home address or you will be billed when you request the transcript if you haven't already paid.



How are the course expectations different for college level courses?

- Students can expect fewer assignments so each grade has a greater impact on the final grade.
- Students can also expect to do independent research and learn necessary background information on their own time and without prompting from a teacher.



How are the course expectations different for college level courses?

- Like a college course, exams and final papers are weighted more heavily than daily work.
- ACP students can be held to the same attendance requirements as IU students and can be penalized for missing class – even excused absences.



How are the course expectations different for college level courses?

- AP[®] courses are a year-long commitment and counselors and teachers will expect students to stay in the course all year.
- Both types of courses are challenging and your student will probably experience frustration at some point during a semester. Remember, it's a college-level course.



AP[®] and Dual-credit from the College Admissions Perspective

- 85% of selective colleges and universities report that a student's AP[®] experience favorably impacts admission decisions*
- AP[®] courses tell college admission officials that students are challenging themselves and preparing for the rigors they'll encounter in their college careers
- Colleges rank grades in college-preparatory courses and strength of curriculum as the two top factors in the admission decision



**Unpublished institutional research, Crux Research Inc., March 2007*

AP[®] & Dual-credit: Skills & Advantages that Last a Lifetime

- Taking an AP[®] course or a dual-credit class helps students build critical thinking skills, confidence, and the essential time management and study skills needed for college success
- Nationally, research shows that students who score a 3 or higher on an AP[®] Exam typically earn higher grade point averages in college and have higher graduation rates than their non-AP[®] peers*

1. *2009, The College Board, "The Relationship Between AP Exam Performance and College Outcomes"



AP[®] & Dual-credit Classes Expand Students' Opportunities

When students earn college credit through AP[®] Exams and dual-credit courses, their college options and opportunities expand:

- Move to upper-level college courses sooner
- Pursue a double major
- Gain time to study and travel abroad



AP[®] & Dual-credit Myths & Realities

Myth

AP and ACP courses are too stressful.

Reality

It's no secret that these courses are challenging. But, the support you receive from your classmates and teachers can help you manage the work load. It is also good to remember that you will find this level of difficulty at college so learning how to deal with the stress and challenge now will benefit you in the long run.



So Why Am I Taking These Classes?

Words from those who have been there...

“...W131 has definitely prepared me for college more than any other class I have taken in high school. I am constantly reviewing the material in my past papers to help me develop a writing plan for papers I have to write currently. I have already written five papers that were in the format Northouse taught us and it’s not even halfway into the semester! It is a needed skill to be able to apply subject material to great writing!”

Jack – Class of 2015



AP[®] & Dual-credit Myths & Realities

Myth

Taking AP and dual-credit courses could hurt my GPA.

Reality

AP and most dual-credit courses are weighted .5 grade points if you earn a C- or better in the course (earning an 'A' is 4.5 grade points instead of 4 grade points) or score high enough on the end-of-course assessment or placement exam. Taking these courses also shows colleges that you're willing to challenge yourself academically.



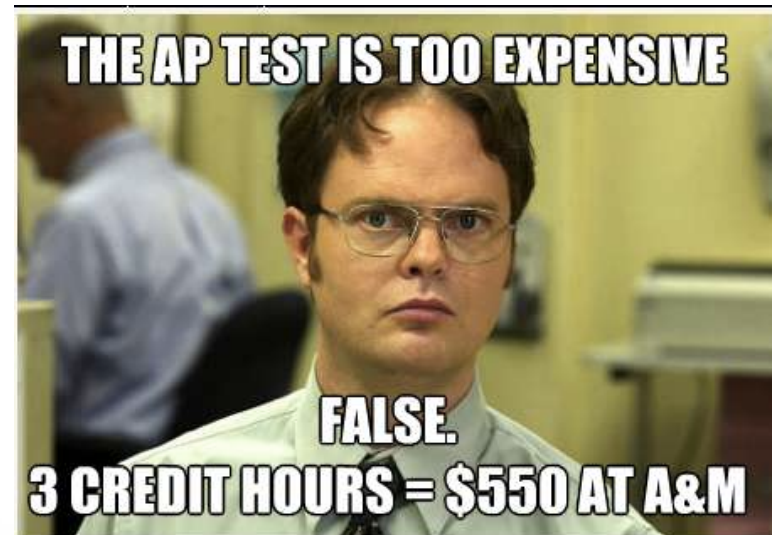
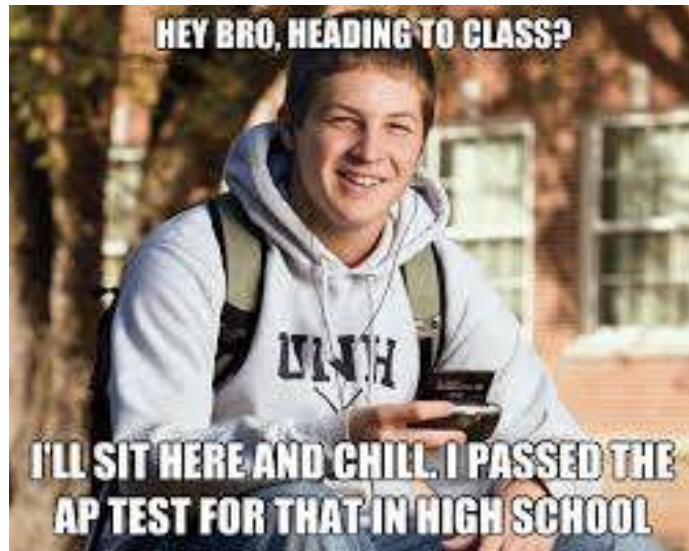
So Why Am I Taking These Classes?

Words from those who have been there...

“They (AP/Dual-credit classes) are faster paced and the actual exam gives you a realistic idea of what college classes are like. It’s really important to know what it feels like to have a fast-paced class. College professors will teach to their syllabus regardless if the class is getting it or not. For students, it’s important to learn how to take charge of their learning which is what AP and dual-credit classes do. The harder material and faster pace teaches students how to ask questions and how to be responsible for their learning.”



Erin – Class of 2015



Questions?

